



1040 2nd Street, Suite 103
Sturgis, SD 57785



Sturgis Information Publication

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Upcoming Events and Activities

City offices will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's. Trash that is normally picked up on Wednesday will be picked up on the Tuesday prior to the holiday. Offices will also be closed on Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King Day. Trash normally picked up on Monday will be collected on Tuesday.

At the Library in January:

Story Hour - Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. at the Library.

Free Computer Classes - (all ages welcome) Mondays at 5:30 p.m. (no class on January 20) and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. (no class on January 23).

History at High Noon - Friday, January 17 at noon. Marguerite Kleven will present a program on *Deadly Disputes* in Meade County in 1907. There is always a cup of coffee available and we invite you to bring your lunch if you wish. History at High Noon is sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council.

Upcoming Meetings

Sturgis City Council: January 6 and 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Erskine Building.

Note: If you want to be scheduled on the City Council agenda, you must notify the Finance Office by 4:00 p.m. on Monday the week prior to the Council meeting.

Forestry Advisory Committee: January 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

Planning and Zoning: January 7 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, Room A.

MUB: January 8 at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall, Room A.

Park Board: January 14 at 6:00 p.m. at Morman Law Firm.

Officials

Mayor

Mark Carstensen 490-1044

Council Members

Ward One:

Mike Bachand 490-1054

Kelly Vasknetz 490-0361

Ward Two:

David Hersrud 347-5061

Marcia Johnston 347-2483

Ward Three:

Jason Anderson 490-1618

Ron Waterland 720-5010

Ward Four:

Branden Bestgen 644-6005

Tim Potts 720-4233

City Manager

Daniel Ainslie 347-4422

Vasknetz Named Employee Of The Year

The City recently named Brenda Vasknetz as the 2013 Outstanding Employee. Brenda is the Director of the Rally and Events Department. On one of Brenda's nominations, it was stated that she works side by side with her fellow employees, event coordinators and businesses to make each and every event a success. She was also recognized for 25 years of service to the City.

The 2013 Volunteer of the Year was the Southern Baptists Disaster Relief group. The relief volunteers arrived in Sturgis following the winter storm Atlas. They provided 576 days of much needed assistance with the clean up efforts in and around the Sturgis community.

Each year, the City accepts nominations from employees and other city representatives for the awards.



Sturgis Mayor Mark Carstensen, Employee of the Year Brenda Vasknetz and City Manager Daniel Ainslie. Photo by Tim Potts.

Christmas Comes To The Plaza

For the first time, the official City Christmas Tree has been on display at the Second Street Plaza. 2013 Winter Frostival activities were scheduled to take place at the Plaza as well, until the sub-zero temperatures forced them indoors. The cookie and candy contest along with the Christmas carols and story time were all forced to move into the Library. Fortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Claus, along with the Mayor and some of the more hardy participants were still willing to brave the cold and held the lighting ceremony outside as scheduled.

The annual Parade of Lights was also cancelled due to the cold weather. Floats were still available for viewing at the Lynns Dakotamart parking lot. Inside the Community Center, vendors displayed their wares and shoppers were able to enjoy the warm, festive environment.

By this time next year, the Second Street Plaza will have new landscaping, electrical outlets and improved lighting. These improvements are part of the Phase I plans scheduled for completion in 2014. The City is currently working on an agreement with First Interstate Bank for use of their parking lot.



Sturgis Community Center Making Changes in 2014

The Sturgis Community Center will be making some much needed improvements in 2014. New treadmills, bikes, elliptical, and weight equipment are scheduled to be installed during the upcoming year. In addition to new equipment, the Community Center also plans to offer 24 hour access to the cardio and weight rooms. This change will be made possible by adding gates to separate these facilities from the rest of the building. The expanded hours will allow members the opportunity to use the facility whenever their busy schedules allow.



New Year's Resolution Membership Drive
A membership drive will take place in January. All members purchasing a new membership or who want to renew an expiring

membership will receive a free month of use if they sign up in January. Those interested in the services offered at the Community Center are invited to stop by for a free tour of the facility. Convenient day passes are also available for purchase at the front desk. Day passes are perfect for out of town visitors or those wanting to make occasional visits.



City employees and Council members recently donated \$1,617 to the local Toys For Tots effort. Each year City employees raise funds for a group donation to this worthy cause.

Christmas tree recycling collection areas are set up on Ballpark Road near the Fire Station and at the Exit 32 recycling area. Both sites will be open from December 26 until January 24.



- City offices will be closed on New Year's Day.
- The Library will close at 4:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve and will be closed on New Year's Day.
- The Community Center will close at 5:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve and will be closed on New Years Day.

2013 Citizen Survey

The 2013 Citizen Survey is enclosed. The feedback from these surveys helps City Council and staff to be better informed when making important decisions regarding the future of our city. Please take a few minutes to let us know how you feel about spending, events, city facilities and future programs. Return your survey to the Water Office by January 31 and receive a \$3.00 credit on your next utility bill. Survey results will be made available in a future newsletter.



New Home Construction Steady in 2013

The Sturgis Building Inspector issued 11 building permits for single family homes in 2013. Those permits had an estimated combined value of \$2,050,000. In addition to new construction, permits for repairs, additions and replacement construction projects were valued at \$2,653,042. The Inspector was also able to issue a certificate of occupancy to Aspen Grove Assisted Living for a 33 bed facility on Moose Drive. Aspen Grove had been under construction for over a year. The City hopes to see an increase in new home construction in 2014. According to the City Manager, the need for starter homes and rental units is significant. There are many people who work in Sturgis but commute to other communities to live due to the lack of affordable housing. It is a challenge to recruit new retail businesses without an adequate number of rooftops to support them.

If you're a "hands on" kind of person, check out our new online Chilton's Automotive Repair Manual database. Download wiring diagrams, diagnostic codes, specifications and whatever else you want to get the job done. All you need is computer access (free at the Library) and a Library Card!



Join us for coffee & donuts at the Library on Friday, January 24, at 10:00 a.m. for a 'Get-R-Done Workshop' to learn how to quickly find exactly what you need from the Chilton's Repair Manual database.

Thank You Volunteers

The City of Sturgis extends a heartfelt Thank You to all the individuals and organizations who provided labor, equipment, meals and countless other acts of kindness to friends and neighbors in the wake of winter storm Atlas. Special thanks goes out to the Southern Baptist Relief Organization, Black Hills Chapter of the American Red Cross, Mission at the Cross, the Boy Scouts of America, The Sturgis Police Cadets and Reserves, and the Volunteers of America. The City also appreciates the hard work of the South Dakota 211 Helpline staff. From October 4 until November 6, the Helpline Center received 268 storm related calls from area residents seeking assistance.

Sales Tax Update

Sturgis City Manager, Daniel Ainslie says that sales tax revenues in Sturgis during 2013 were very good. The City will end the year with an approximate 7% increase over last year. Despite the devastating blizzard in October that forced the closing of several businesses, sales tax collections during the fourth quarter of the year have remained strong.

Thank You For Shopping Local!
By shopping right here in Sturgis, you not only save time and the cost of travel, you also help everyone in the community including businesses, neighbors, friends and your family.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally also produced strong sales. The SD Department of Revenue reported \$240,084 in tax collections during the event. An extra effort was made by the Department of Revenue and Sturgis Police Department in 2013 to ensure compliance by temporary vendors during the Rally. The City Council recently approved changes to the Vending Ordinance that will require temporary vendors to be even more diligent in record keeping and reporting sales information.

HELP WANTED
Planning & Zoning Commission
The City is accepting applications to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission. This is a volunteer, non-paid position. Applicants must live within three miles of the city limits. The Commission meets monthly at 5:30 pm at City Hall. Commission appointments are for three year terms. The Planning & Zoning Commission reviews a variety of zoning related applications and makes recommendations to the Council. To apply, visit the city website at sturgis-sd.gov and download a volunteer application from the Employment page. The City of Sturgis is an equal opportunity employer.

Contact Information

- City Hall 347-4422
City Attorney 347-4422
Code Enforcement and Inspections 347-4422
- Finance Office 347-4422
Human Resources 347-4422
Rally Department 720-0800
1040 2nd Street
- Community Center 347-6513
5:00 - 9:00 Mon. - Fri.
8:00 - 8:00 Sat.
Noon - 5:00 Sun.
1401 Lazelle Street
- Fire & Ambulance 347-5801
Emergency 911
7:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1901 Ballpark Road
- Library 347-2624
8:30 - 7:00 Mon. - Thur.
8:30 - 5:00 Fri.
8:30 - 4:00 Sat.
1040 2nd Street
- Liquor Store 347-5983
8:00 - 9:00 Mon. - Sat.
10:00 - 6:00 Sun.
1075 Lazelle Street
- Parks Department 347-9018
8:00 - 5:00 Mon. - Fri.
1920 Ballpark Road
Shelter Reservations call 347-4422
- Police Department 347-5070
Emergency 911
1400 Main Street
- Public Works 347-3916
7:00 - 4:00 Mon. - Fri.
1057 Dudley Street
Rubble Site
8:00 - 5:00 Tue. - Fri.
8:00 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 5:00 Mon. and Sat.
- Water Department 347-4425
8:00 - 4:45 Mon. - Fri.
1040 2nd Street
After Hours Emergency call
Police Dispatch 347-2573
Payment Drop Box:
City Hall 1040 2nd Street